

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as marked up below:

1. (currently amended) A hair trimming apparatus for trimming the distal ends of hair drawn therethrough, comprising:
  - a body assembly having a handle end and having a head end;
  - a motor mounted in said body assembly adapted for communication with an electric power source;
  - a cutting head assembly positioned upon said head end of said body assembly, said cutting head assembly having a face with a retainer cavity formed therein, a rear wall, a sidewall, and an interior cavity defined by the area between said face and said rear wall;
  - a slot in said retainer cavity communicating between said face and said interior cavity;
  - an elongated hair retainer mounted to said body assembly at a first end, said hair retainer dimensioned for cooperative engagement in said retainer cavity;
  - said elongated hair retainer having an operating position cooperatively engaged in said retainer cavity and having a raised position, substantially disengaged from said retainer cavity;
  - means to move said elongated hair retainer between said raised position and said operating position;

a serpentine path formed between said retainer cavity and said hair retainer in said operating position, said serpentine path for drawing hair strands through said cutting head assembly;

said slot allowing said distal ends of said hair strands drawn through said serpentine path to momentarily communicate into said interior cavity; and means for cutting off portions of said distal ends of said hair strands;

means to communicate mechanical power from said motor to said means for cutting off portions of said distal ends of said hair strands.

2. (currently amended) The hair trimming apparatus as defined in claim 1 additionally comprising:

    said cutting head assembly removably mountable to said head end; and

    means for cooperative engagement of said cutting head assembly to said head end.

3. (original) The hair trimming apparatus as defined in claim 1 additionally comprising:

    an aperture formed in said sidewall;

    a tray, said tray engageable into said interior cavity through said aperture to a mounted position;

means to substantially seal said aperture when said tray is in said mounted position; and

said tray having at least one collection cavity positioned to catch said portions cut from the distal ends of said hairs, whereby said portions cut from said distal ends of said hairs are collected in said collection cavity and thereafter may be disposed of by moving said tray from its mounted position and inverting it.

4. (original) The hair trimming apparatus as defined in claim 2 additionally comprising:

an aperture formed in said sidewall;  
a tray, said tray engageable into said interior cavity through said aperture to a mounted position;  
means to substantially seal said aperture when said tray is in said mounted position; and  
said tray having at least one collection cavity positioned to catch said portions cut from the distal ends of said hairs, whereby said portions cut from said distal ends of said hairs are collected in said collection cavity and thereafter may be disposed of by moving said tray from its mounted position and inverting it.

5. (currently amended) The hair trimming apparatus as defined in claim 1 additionally comprising:

a rear aperture formed in said ~~rearwall~~ rear wall, said rear aperture providing communication to said interior cavity; and openable means for sealing said rear aperture.

6. (currently amended) The hair trimming apparatus as defined in claim 2 additionally comprising:

a rear aperture formed in said ~~rearwall~~ rear wall, said rear aperture providing communication to said interior cavity; and openable means for sealing said rear aperture.

7. (currently amended) The hair trimming apparatus as defined in claim 3 additionally comprising:

a rear aperture formed in said ~~rearwall~~ rear wall, said rear aperture providing communication to said interior cavity; and openable means for sealing said rear aperture.

8. (Currently amended) The hair trimming apparatus as defined in claim 4 additionally comprising:

a rear aperture formed in said ~~rearwall~~ rear wall, said rear aperture providing communication to said interior cavity; and openable means for sealing said rear aperture.

9. (currently amended) The hair trimming apparatus as defined in claim 2 additionally comprising:

a plurality of cutter blade assemblies each either removably or permanently mountable in said interior cavity;

each of said plurality of cutter blade assemblies configured to cut a defined length of said distal ends of said hair strands whereby said a user may adjust the length of said distal ends removed from said hair strands by changing to another cutter blade assembly from said plurality of cutter blade assemblies.

10. (Currently Amended) The hair trimming apparatus as defined in claim 4 additionally comprising:

a plurality of cutter blade assemblies each either removably or permanently mountable in said interior cavity;

each of said plurality of cutter blade assemblies configured to cut a defined length of said distal ends of said hair strands whereby said a user may adjust the length of said distal ends removed from said hair strands by changing to another cutter blade assembly from said plurality of cutter blade assemblies.

11. (original) The hair trimming apparatus as defined in claim 6  
additionally comprising:

a plurality of cutter blade assemblies each either removably  
or permanently mountable in said interior cavity;

each of said plurality of cutter blade assemblies  
configured to cut a defined length of said distal ends of said  
hair strands whereby said a user may adjust the length of said  
distal ends removed from said hair strands by changing to another  
cutter blade assembly from said plurality of cutter blade  
assemblies.

12. (original) The hair trimming apparatus as defined in claim 5  
additionally comprising:

said rear aperture engageable with one of a plurality of  
components from a group of engageable components consisting of a  
hair dryer and a vacuum.

13. (original) The hair trimming apparatus as defined in claim 6  
additionally comprising:

said rear aperture engageable with one of a plurality of  
components from a group of engageable components consisting of a  
hair dryer and a vacuum.

14. (original) The hair trimming apparatus as defined in claim 7  
additionally comprising:

said rear aperture engageable with one of a plurality of  
components from a group of engageable components consisting of a  
hair dryer and a vacuum.

15. (original) The hair trimming apparatus as defined in claim 8  
additionally comprising:

said rear aperture engageable with one of a plurality of  
components from a group of engageable components consisting of a  
hair dryer and a vacuum.

16. (currently amended) The hair trimming apparatus as defined in  
claim 1 additionally comprising:

said retainer cavity communicating between said face and  
said interior cavity being substantially arched shaped  
and extending from a point substantially adjacent to a  
first side edge of said face to a second point  
substantially adjacent to a second side edge of said  
face opposite said first side edge;

said elongated hair retainer also having arched shape  
dimensioned for cooperative engagement in said retainer  
cavity; and

said slot positioned substantially equidistant between said  
first point and said second point.

17. (currently amended) The hair trimming apparatus as defined in claim 2 additionally comprising:

said retainer cavity communicating between said face and said interior cavity being substantially arched shaped and extending from a point substantially adjacent to a first side edge of said face to a second point substantially adjacent to a second side edge of said face opposite said first side edge;

said elongated hair retainer also having arched shape dimensioned for cooperative engagement in said retainer cavity; and

said slot positioned substantially equidistant between said first point and said second point.

18. (currently amended) The hair trimming apparatus as defined in claim 3 additionally comprising:

said retainer cavity communicating between said face and said interior cavity being substantially arched shaped and extending from a point substantially adjacent to a first side edge of said face to a second point substantially adjacent to a second side edge of said face opposite said first side edge;

said elongated hair retainer also having arched shape dimensioned for cooperative engagement in said retainer cavity; and

said slot positioned substantially equidistant between said first point and said second point.

19. (currently amended) The hair trimming apparatus as defined in claim 4 additionally comprising:

    said retainer cavity communicating between said face and said interior cavity being substantially arched shaped and extending from a point substantially adjacent to a first side edge of said face to a second point substantially adjacent to a second side edge of said face opposite said first side edge;

    said elongated hair retainer also having arched shape dimensioned for cooperative engagement in said retainer cavity; and

    said slot positioned substantially equidistant between said first point and said second point.

20. (currently amended) The hair trimming apparatus as defined in claim 5 additionally comprising:

    said retainer cavity communicating between said face and said interior cavity being substantially arched shaped and extending from a point substantially adjacent to a first side edge of said face to a second point substantially adjacent to a second side edge of said face opposite said first side edge;

said elongated hair retainer also having arched shape dimensioned for cooperative engagement in said retainer cavity; and

    said slot positioned substantially equidistant between said first point and said second point.

21. (currently amended) The hair trimming apparatus as defined in claim 6 additionally comprising:

    said retainer cavity communicating between said face and said interior cavity being substantially arched shaped and extending from a point substantially adjacent to a first side edge of said face to a second point substantially adjacent to a second side edge of said face opposite said first side edge;

    said elongated hair retainer also having arched shape dimensioned for cooperative engagement in said retainer cavity; and

    said slot positioned substantially equidistant between said first point and said second point.

22. (currently amended) The hair trimming apparatus as defined in claim 7 additionally comprising:

    said retainer cavity communicating between said face and said interior cavity being substantially arched shaped and extending from a point substantially adjacent to a

first side edge of said face to a second point substantially adjacent to a second side edge of said face opposite said first side edge; said elongated hair retainer also having arched shape dimensioned for cooperative engagement in said retainer cavity; and said slot positioned substantially equidistant between said first point and said second point.

23. (currently amended) A hair trimming apparatus for trimming the distal ends of hair drawn therethrough, comprising:

a body assembly having a handle end and having a head end; a motor mounted in said body assembly adapted for communication with an electric power source; a cutting head assembly positioned upon said head end of said body assembly, said cutting head assembly having a face having a plurality of said retainer cavities formed therein, each of said plurality of said retainer cavities having a slot therein communicating between said face and said an interior cavity; said an elongated hair retainer having a plurality of elongated projections, each of said projections dimensioned for cooperative engagement in said retainer cavities; said elongated hair retainer having an operating position

with said projections cooperatively engaged in said retainer cavities and having a raised position, with said projections substantially disengaged from said retainer cavities;

said a serpentine path formed between each of said plurality of retainer cavities and said elongated projections; and

each slot in said plurality of retainer cavities allowing said distal ends of said hair strands drawn through said serpentine path to momentarily communicate into said interior cavity, whereby portions of said distal ends of said hair strands communicate into said interior cavity a plurality of times substantially equal to the number of said plurality of retainer cavities.

24. (currently amended) The hair trimming apparatus as defined in claim 23 additionally comprising:

    said cutting head assembly being removably mountable to said head end; and

    means for cooperative engagement of said cutting head assembly to said head end.

25. (currently amended) The hair trimming apparatus as defined in claim 23 additionally comprising:

an aperture formed in said a sidewall of said body assembly;

a tray, said tray engageable into said interior cavity through said aperture to a mounted position;

means to substantially seal said aperture when said tray is in said mounted position; and

said tray having at least one collection cavity positioned to catch said portions cut from the distal ends of said hairs hair, whereby said portions cut from said distal ends of said hairs hair are collected in said collection cavity and thereafter may be disposed of by moving said tray from its mounted position and inverting it.

26. (currently amended) The hair trimming apparatus as defined in claim 24 additionally comprising:

an aperture formed in said a sidewall of said body assembly;

a tray, said tray engageable into said interior cavity through said aperture to a mounted position;

means to substantially seal said aperture when said tray is in said mounted position; and

said tray having at least one collection cavity positioned to catch said portions cut from the distal ends of said hairs hair, whereby said portions cut from said distal ends of said hairs are collected in said collection cavity and thereafter may

be disposed of by moving said tray from its mounted position and inverting it.

27. (currently amended) The hair trimming apparatus as defined in claim 23 additionally comprising:

a rear aperture formed in said a rearwall of said body assembly, said rear aperture providing communication to said an interior cavity; and  
openable means for sealing said rear aperture.

28. (currently amended) The hair trimming apparatus as defined in claim 24 additionally comprising:

a rear aperture formed in said a rearwall of said body assembly, said rear aperture providing communication to said an interior cavity; and  
openable means for sealing said rear aperture.

29. (currently amended) The hair trimming apparatus as defined in claim 25 additionally comprising:

a rear aperture formed in said a rearwall of said body assembly, said rear aperture providing communication to said an interior cavity; and  
openable means for sealing said rear aperture.

30. (currently amended) The hair trimming apparatus as defined in claim 26 additionally comprising:

a rear aperture formed in said a rearwall of said body assembly, said rear aperture providing communication to said interior cavity; and

openable means for sealing said rear aperture.

31. (currently amended) The hair trimming apparatus as defined in claim 1 additionally comprising:

a plurality of splines located on one or a combination of said hair retainer and said face;

gaps formed between said splines; and

said gaps dividing said serpentine pathway path into a plurality of individual serpentine pathways for guiding hair strands through said retainer cavity and said hair retainer.

32. (currently amended) The hair trimming apparatus as defined in claim 23 additionally comprising:

a plurality of splines located on one or a combination of said hair retainer and said face;

gaps formed between said splines; and

said gaps dividing said serpentine pathway path into a plurality of individual serpentine pathways for guiding hair strands through said plurality of retainer cavities and said hair retainer.